(a) whether Government are aware that the railway overbridge from PWD to NH-31 Maheshkunt, Khagariya in Bihar has not yet been completed;

(b) if so, by when it would be completed;

(c) if not, the reasons for not commencing the work; and

(d) the comprehensive details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) The work for construction of road overbridge (ROB) in lieu of existing level crossing No. 28/Spl at kms. 113/5-6 between Mansi and Maheshkunt was sanctioned on cost sharing basis in the year 2000-01. The Railway is executing its portion of work i.e. bridge proper across the Railway tracks and approach work by State Government/Public Works Department (PWD) National Highway (NH) Wing. Presently the work in Railway portion is in progress. The foundation work comprising 40 piles completed in Railway portion and tender for remaining substructure invited. Tender for fabrication and erection of girder has been finalized. All efforts shall be made by Railway to complete its portion of work along with approaches done by State Government.

Connecting Siwan District by Rajdhani Express

3477. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Rajdhani Express connecting Siwan District via Gorakhpur resulting in unexpected delay to the passengers of this area;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to connect the Siwan Junction by any Rajdhani Express; and

(c) if not, the reason behind not connecting this junction by Rajdhani Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) At present, there is neither direct Rajdhani train connection between New Delhi and Siwan nor there is any proposal to connect Siwan by Rajdhani service. Introduction of a Rajdhani Express connecting Siwan is not feasible, at present, due to operational and resource constraints.